



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
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## *A Note from Rep. Allen*

### Local Happenings

In light of the recent GE shutdown, I reached out to the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and expressed my concerns regarding the 350 jobs that are in jeopardy. While GE has not confirmed a layoff date, I learned the DWD is in communication with GE and working to create Rapid Response package for GE employees. The Rapid Response services are designed to respond to layoffs by offering support and job services to affected workers. In addition, Rapid Response offers orientation sessions to explain unemployment insurance benefits, job search assistance and potential job training opportunities.

If you or someone you know is affected by these layoffs, feel free to contact [your local job center](#) for more information about these services. I will continue to be in contact with DWD in order to help direct affected workers to the best assistance available.



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## Capitol Happenings

Legislation to reform [Wisconsin's Civil Service System](#) is underway. The proposal specifically aims to reform the hiring process, job performance evaluation, the “just cause” definition and the appeals process to make it easier for Wisconsin businesses to attract, hire and retain employees in response to the high number of projected retirees.

Four new bills have been introduced as an expansion of the 2014 [HOPE](#) (Heroin, Opiate, Prevention and Education) bill. They target prescription drug abuse and addiction, as the Wisconsin Department of Health Services reported morphine-like pain relievers contributed to 45% of overdose deaths in Wisconsin in 2013, with death rates doubling since 2004. To tackle this epidemic, the proposed bill aims to collectively work with

dispensers of these prescription drugs, law enforcement and pain management clinics. While this expansion focuses on targeting prescription drugs, Wisconsin is still committed in its efforts to end heroin use.

[Dose of Reality](#) offers more information about prescription drug abuse in Wisconsin. Feel free to visit the website to learn the facts as well as what you can do to contribute to Wisconsin's effort in preventing this abuse.

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News You Can Use

The Wisconsin Bankers Association recently issued a testimony about Cyber Security, noting ATM skimming is on the rise. One of the Association members has more information here. Visit [Click Here](#) for information about ATM skimming and tips on how you can reduce your risk of becoming a victim of this fraud technique.

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### [Task Force on Alzheimer's and Dementia Website](#)

Representative Mike Rohrkaste (R-Neenah) announced the creation of a [new website](#) for the Speaker's Task Force on Alzheimer's and Dementia, which he chairs. The new website features tabs for public testimony, press releases, and news articles. It will also feature a tab with a link to each task force member. The website is a quick and easy place for people to keep track of what the task force is doing and provide a way for people to stay involved.

“Alzheimer's and Dementia affect many people throughout our state,” Rohrkaste stated. “I think it is important to make sure people know what we are doing to help and also to provide the public with easy access to the task force.”

The [website](#) will continue to operate throughout the duration of the task force and will be continually updated to provide the newest information presented to the group.



### DATES TO REMEMBER

October 12-Columbus Day

October 13-U.S. Navy established in 1775

**October 17-Sweetest Day**

**October 23-Grenada Campaign began in 1983**

**October 24-United Nations Day**

**October 27-Navy Day**

**October 31-Halloween**

**As always, if you have any comments or thoughts regarding the subject of this E-Update, please feel free to contact me.**

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